Inferior quality spares causing MIG crashes

1684. SHRI CM. IBRAHIM:
DR. KARAN SINGH:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the statement of the Russian Deputy General Designer of the MIG Corporation, as reported in Times of India of August 22, 2001 to the effect that the recent frequent air-crashes involving MIG aircraft were attributable to the low quality of spares, Government procured for these plans from Ukraine and East European countries; and

(b) if so, how far Government agree to his observation and its reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Low quality spares are not procured by the Indian Air Force. While the bulk of spares for MIG aircraft are indigenously manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, the balance quantities are procured through authorised agencies only, which are either Original Equipment Manufacturers of established vendors.

IAF Jaguar Crash on U.P. Haryana Border

1685. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an IAF Jaguar fighter aircraft crashed in the sugar fields on U.P.-Haryana border on October 25, 2001;

(b) if so, the causes and circumstances leading to the crash; and

(c) the number of Jaguar fighters so far lost in air crashes?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The pilot inadvertently entered into a spin / autorotation manoeuvre from which he was unable to recover. This was a case of Human Error (Aircrew) wherein the pilot mishandled the controls and exceeded the laid down parameters, causing the aircraft to enter into a spin.